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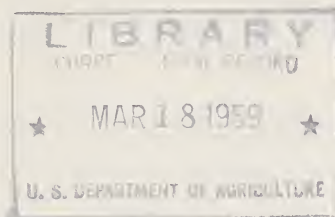
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service Washington D.C.



LIVESTOCK AND MEAT
FLM 11-58
October 31, 1958

TRENDS IN WORLD MEAT CONSUMPTION

During 1957, meat consumption rose to fairly high levels in most countries of Europe, the U.S.S.R., Australia, New Zealand, and Argentina. Consumption per person was maintained or increased in most countries. Per capita consumption in the United Kingdom reached a new postwar high, and in Argentina it was close to the alltime record set in 1956. However, in 1957 per capita consumption decreased in the United States, the Netherlands, Yugoslavia, France, New Zealand and South Africa.

Most of the meat produced is consumed in the countries producing it. World exports during 1957 are estimated at 5.6 billion pounds (carcass weight basis), compared with a total output of 95.2 billion pounds in 43 countries. The chief movement of meat is from Australia, New Zealand, and South America to the United Kingdom and other countries in Western Europe. However, North America is drawing larger supplies from the surplus-producing areas. Eastern Europe's meat exports to Western Europe are increasing; there is considerable intra-European trade.

Improvement in living standards is usually accompanied by an increase in demand for meat, but world meat trade usually is not large enough to even out per capita supplies, and changes in consumption in most countries come from changes in domestic meat output.

The leading countries in per capita meat consumption during 1957 were Argentina (242 pounds), Australia (223), New Zealand (220), Uruguay (168), United States (159), Denmark (142), Canada (137), United Kingdom (134), France (122) and West Germany (107).

Consumption figures for foreign countries are given on a dressed carcass weight basis so they will be as comparable as possible with U.S. statistics. U.S. per capita data relate only to civilian consumption.

MEAT 1/: Summary of apparent consumption in specified areas, average 1951-55, annual 1956 and 1957, with percent change

Area	:Average :1951-55	: 1956	: 1957	Increase from 1951-55 average	
				1956	1957
	:mil.lb.	:mil.lb.	:mil.lb.	:percent	:percent
North America 2/	: 28,273	: 32,322	: 31,391	: /14	: /11
South America 3/	: 7,816	: 8,283	: 8,457	: /6	: /8
Western Europe 4/	: 23,810	: 27,738	: 28,181	: /16	: /18
U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe 5/	: 16,225	: 18,813	: 19,373	: /16	: /19
Australia and New Zealand	: 2,519	: 2,517	: 2,852	: 0	: /13

1/ Carcass meat basis--includes beef, veal, mutton, lamb, goat and horse-meat; excludes edible variety meat, rabbit and poultry meat, and lard.

2/ Canada, Mexico, United States, and Cuba.

3/ Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay.

4/ Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, West Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

5/ Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Roumania, Hungary, and Yugoslavia.

North America

Total meat consumption in North America during 1957 was 3 percent less than a year earlier but 11 percent greater than the 1951-55 average. The rise in consumption in recent years has been due mostly to an increase in domestic production, but there has also been a sharp rise in net imports.

Per capita supplies in the United States during 1957 were below the two preceding years but were the fourth largest in annual records dating back to 1899. Supplies during 1958 will be moderately below those last year. Per capita consumption in Canada in 1956 was the largest since 1945, and declined only slightly in 1957. Consumption per person will be about the same in 1958 as in 1957.

South America

Consumption in South America changed little from 1956 to 1957; in 1957 it was 8 percent above average, while production was 16 percent above the average and net exports were considerably above average.

Meat consumption in Brazil apparently is not keeping pace with the increase in population. Consumption in Chile and Paraguay has been relatively small in recent years. Meat production, however, is increasing in Paraguay this year.

Western Europe

Demand for meat has continued to rise in Western Europe. Consumption in 1957 was up 2 percent from 1956, and 18 percent above the 1951-55 average. Indigenous production last year was 15 percent above average, and net imports have been rising for several years. Large imports of meat will be required in 1959 to maintain per capita consumption, as meat production is expected to level off.

Meat consumption in the United Kingdom, the outstanding meat importer, continues to increase, and domestic production is providing a large part of the increase. Domestic disappearance during the first half of 1958 was 4 percent greater than a year earlier. Production during the first half of 1958 was up 9 percent but there was a decline of 13 percent in imports. Domestic production supplied 64 percent of total consumption in January-June 1958, compared with 61 percent in the corresponding period of 1957.

Eastern Europe

Meat consumption in the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe during 1957 was 3 percent greater than a year earlier and 19 percent above average. This rise in consumption, along with increased net exports to the Free World, have been made possible by substantial gains in domestic meat output.

Per capita consumption in the U.S.S.R. is estimated at 51 pounds per person in 1955 and 53 pounds in 1956. The consumption estimates take into account data on meat trade published by the Communist Government and FAS estimates of total production.

Other Areas

Meat consumption in Japan averages only about 7 pounds per person annually but is increasing steadily. Consumption in the Philippines is considerably higher, at 12 pounds per capita.

Consumption in Australia and New Zealand continues above average. Since 1951-55, the consumption increase has about matched the production increase.

MEAT: Per capita consumption, by type of meat,
in 10 selected countries, 1957

Country	class of meat				
	Total <u>1/</u>	Beef and veal	Pork	Lamb and mutton	Canned meat
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Argentina	242	210	19	13	<u>2/</u>
Australia	223	129	16	74	4
New Zealand	220	113	31	76	<u>2/</u>
Uruguay	168	130	12	26	<u>2/</u>
United States	159	93	62	4	<u>2/</u>
Denmark	<u>3/</u> 142	54	87	<u>4/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Canada	137	84	45	3	5
United Kingdom	134	55	42	22	15
France	<u>3/</u> 122	64	48	6	<u>2/</u>
West Germany	<u>3/</u> 107	39	66	1	<u>2/</u>

1/ Beef, veal, lamb, mutton, and pork (excluding lard).

2/ Included with other types.

3/ Includes horsemeat.

4/ Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ pound.

Countries	Production				Net trade				Apparent consumption				Per capita consumption			
	1956		1957		Imports		Exports		Average		1956		Average		1956	
	1951-55	2/	2/	2/	1951-55	2/	2/	2/	1951-55	2/	1951-55	2/	1951-55	2/	1951-55	2/
Million pounds																
North America :																
Canada 3/ 4/	2,086	2,415	2,318		-54	-40	-40		2,032	2,375	2,278	129	138		137	
Mexico	1,139	1,228	1,346		-66	-22	-25		1,073	1,206	1,321	38	39		42	
United States 5/	24,356	28,056	26,930		4,320	4,164	4,325		24,676	28,200	27,255	151	167		159	
Cuba 3/	461	480	500		432	439	435		493	519	535	85	84		83	
South America:																
Argentina 3/ 6/	4,893	6,296	6,351		-829	-1,549	-1,550		4,064	4,747	4,801	222	244		242	
Brazil 3/	3,149	3,168	3,230		-9	-33	-26		3,140	3,135	3,204	56	52		52	
Chile.....	360	--	--		44	413	48		364	--	--	56	--		--	
Paraguay 3/	187	--	--		-23	-14	-18		164	--	--	110	--		--	
Uruguay.....	786	617	674		-174	-216	-222		612	401	452	242	151		168	
Europe:																
Austria.....	654	719	734		43	46	46		657	725	740	95	104		106	
Belgium-Luxembourg..	800	881	861		417	422	442		817	903	903	92	101		101	
Denmark 4/	1,247	1,354	1,551		-772	-770	-911		475	584	640	109	131		142	
Finland.....	261	303	--		-2	43	--		259	306	--	63	71		--	
France.....	4,811	5,511	5,358		-53	-51	42		4,758	5,460	5,360	112	125		122	
Germany, West.....	4,740	5,367	5,706		490	497	495		4,830	5,664	5,901	92	105		107	
Greece.....	186	230	238		411	433	430		197	263	268	25	33		33	
Ireland 3/.....	404	377	423		-158	-118	-152		246	259	271	84	89		94	
Italy.....	1,725	2,072	--		470	471	424		1,795	2,073	--	38	43		--	
Netherlands.....	1,087	1,241	1,276		-235	-274	-328		852	967	948	81	89		86	
Norway.....	238	261	261		-3	-6	-2		235	255	259	74	74		74	
Portugal.....	361	343	361		-4	-2	-2		357	341	359	41	39		40	
Sweden.....	722	715	738		423	415	437		745	730	775	104	100		105	
Switzerland.....	431	474	--		418	430	426		449	504	--	92	100		--	
United Kingdom 3/4/	3,151	3,715	3,752		4,687	4,319	4,513		5,838	7,034	7,265	108	131		134	
Yugoslavia.....	899	1,091	992		-22	-67	-97		877	1,024	895	49	57		49	
Africa:																
Union of So Africa 3/	976	1,066	1,069		-11	-19	-23		965	1,047	1,046	73	75		74	
Asia:																
Japan.....	401	612	599		412	45	450		413	617	649	5	7		7	
Philippines.....	206	214	248		422	446	430		228	260	278	11	12		12	
Oceania:																
Australia 3/4/7/	2,522	2,637	2,852		-471	-620	-551		2,051	2,017	2,301	214	223		223	
New Zealand 3/4/8/	1,262	1,438	1,429		-794	-938	-878		468	500	551	216	223		220	

1/ Carcass meat basis - includes beef, veal, pork, mutton, lamb, goat and horsemeat; excludes edible variety meats, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Excludes horsemeat. 4/ Per capita consumption figures take into account changes in commercial stocks. 5/ Includes horsemeat in trade and apparent consumption. Per capita consumption estimates take into account changes in commercial stocks and excludes military consumption. 6/ Per capita data of the National Meat Board. 7/ Per capita data for years ending June 30. 8/ Per capita data are for years ending September 30.

Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source material, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and related information.
Foreign Agricultural Service, October 23, 1958.

MEAT 1/: Per capita consumption in specified countries, prewar, 1946-50, and 1951-55 averages, and annual 1948-57

Country or area	Averages											1957
	Prewar 2/	1946-50	1951-55	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
North America:												
Canada.....	113	128	129	124	130	122	123	127	129	131	134	138
Mexico.....	38	41	38	41	40	45	39	38	37	38	37	39
United States.....	127	149	151	146	145	145	138	146	155	155	163	167
Cuba.....	77	85	85	---	---	---	90	86	85	81	82	84
South America:												
Argentina.....	209	230	222	235	237	240	233	215	215	217	230	244
Brazil.....	53	52	56	52	54	53	58	56	56	55	55	52
Chile.....	73	79	56	74	64	66	58	61	61	51	51	---
Paraguay.....	162	147	110	---	---	116	85	109	96	131	127	---
Uruguay.....	225	219	242	226	236	231	233	269	274	227	207	151
Europe:												
Austria.....	92	64	95	61	61	79	86	92	98	96	101	104
Belgium.....	89	85	92	82	85	83	85	90	91	95	97	101
Denmark.....	132	126	109	118	127	114	101	100	109	114	119	131
Finland.....	66	57	63	61	62	61	62	61	67	63	63	71
France.....	97	90	112	92	102	99	95	106	115	120	123	122
Germany, Western.....	3/ 113	61	92	---	---	79	85	86	94	94	101	105
Greece.....	36	24	25	27	26	22	21	23	24	27	31	33
Ireland.....	90	92	84	92	87	79	82	78	84	86	90	89
Italy.....	38	29	38	31	32	30	32	37	40	39	40	43
Netherlands.....	92	60	81	51	63	83	79	82	77	81	87	89
Norway.....	79	62	70	62	73	74	71	68	64	71	76	74
Portugal.....	43	40	49	35	39	36	41	39	39	42	42	39
Sweden.....	101	97	104	91	95	101	104	101	99	108	107	100
Switzerland.....	105	79	92	76	83	90	88	92	93	93	95	100
United Kingdom.....	126	101	108	89	87	113	89	97	108	120	128	131
Yugoslavia.....	3/ 57	49	49	---	---	---	50	42	39	55	58	57
U.S.S.R.....	3/ 43	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	51	53
Africa:												
Union of South Africa.....	70	78	73	82	80	75	68	72	79	75	70	75
Asia:												
Japan.....	---	---	5	---	---	---	4	4	5	4	6	7
Philippines.....	---	---	11	---	---	---	10	11	11	10	11	12
Oceania:												
Australia 4/.....	245	201	214	208	220	223	218	206	217	213	219	223
New Zealand 5/.....	212	212	216	199	219	220	228	220	205	211	218	223

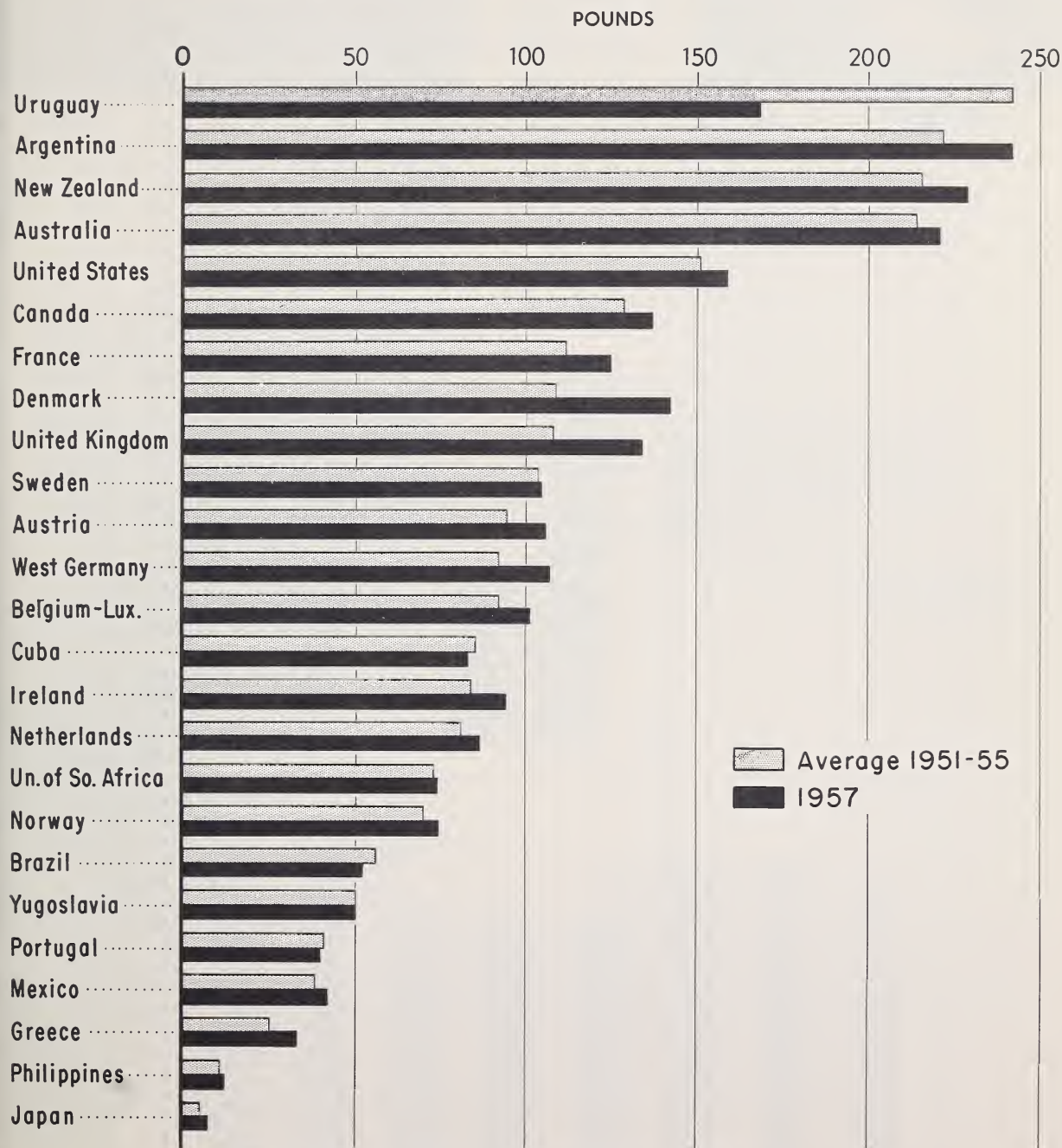
1/ Cereals meat basis - includes beef, veal, pork, mutton, lamb, goat and horse meat; excludes edible variety meat, lard, rabbit and poultry meat.

2/ Prewar average is for years 1935-39 for United States, Canada, Denmark, Finland, and Sweden; 1936-38 for Greece; and 1934-38 for other countries; see other footnotes for Australia and New Zealand. 3/ Prewar territory. 4/ Years ending June 30 of year shown in heading; prewar average 1936-37 to 1938-39. 5/ Years ending September 30; prewar average 1937-39.

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Foreign Agricultural Service. October 23, 1958.

WORLD PER CAPITA MEAT* CONSUMPTION RISING



* BEEF, VEAL, PORK, LAMB, GOAT AND HORSEMEAT, CARCASS WEIGHT BASIS.
EXCLUDES OFFAL, LARD, RABBIT AND POULTRY MEAT.

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